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Vandals damage line; reward offered for leads

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Bonneville Power Administration

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KING COUNTY, Wash. - A helicopter maintenance crew recently noticed that a Bonneville Power Administration transmission line near Kirkland Wash. running between Carnation and Duvall had been damaged by gunfire.

BPA Security Specialist Jeffrey Millennor estimates the damage at \$6,000. A reward of \$1,000 is being offered for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the vandals.

All three insulators on the Echo Lake - Monroe #1 transmission line needed to be replaced. The line had to be shut down while repairs took place. Power was re-routed and no one lost service.

Since 1994, BPA's Crime Witness Program has generated hundreds of tips resulting in dozens of arrests and thousands of dollars of recovered property and, most important, deterrence of future crime. In 1999, 202 insulators were replaced; representing an 88 percent decrease from the historic average of 1,723 units replaced each year before the program began. Ratepayers have saved more than \$2 million because of this program. Informants can call toll free 1-800-437-2744. The identity of informants is kept strictly confidential.

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